

Community Development Committee

For the Metropolitan Council meeting of February 11, 2015

Subject: Public Hearing Report and Adoption of the 2040 Regional Parks Policy Plan

Proposed Action

That the Metropolitan Council:

- Accept the public hearing report on the *2040 Regional Parks Policy Plan*
- Adopt the *2040 Regional Parks Policy Plan* as part of the comprehensive development guide for the metropolitan area authorized under Minnesota Statutes sections 473.145, superseding and replacing any park policies adopted by the Council prior to May 28, 2014 adoption of *Thrive MSP 2040*.

Summary of Committee Discussion/Questions

Committee Members complimented staff for their work addressing equity and the focus on regional park use among people of color, particularly in light of changing demographics. Chair Cunningham also complimented staff for their due diligence to ensure the community was involved throughout the planning process. Chair Cunningham asked whether changes had been made based on recommendations received during the public hearing process. Staff stated clarity and additional language was added to the plan based on comments received.

The Community Development Committee unanimously recommended approval of the proposed action.

Community Development Committee

Meeting date: January 20, 2015

For the Metropolitan Council meeting of February 11, 2015

Subject: Public Hearing Report and Adoption of the 2040 Regional Parks Policy Plan

District(s), Member(s): All

Policy/Legal Reference: Minn. Stat. 473.147

Staff Prepared/Presented: Jan Youngquist AICP, Manager (651 602-1029)

Rainry Salk PhD, Research Analyst (651 602-1669)

Division/Department: Community Development, Regional Parks and Natural Resources

Proposed Action

That the Metropolitan Council:

- Accept the public hearing report on the *2040 Regional Parks Policy Plan*
- Adopt the *2040 Regional Parks Policy Plan* as part of the comprehensive development guide for the metropolitan area authorized under Minnesota Statutes sections 473.145

Background

The Council is required by Minnesota Statute 473.147 to prepare and adopt a long-range system policy plan for regional recreation open space as part of the Council's Metropolitan Development Guide. The Council has consulted with the Metropolitan Parks and Open Space Commission, regional park implementing agencies, other partners and stakeholders, and the general public in the development of the *2040 Regional Parks Policy Plan*, which builds on the policy direction provided in *Thrive MSP 2040*.

Rationale

The *2040 Regional Parks Policy Plan* provides policy guidance for the Regional Parks System and conforms to directives specified in *Thrive MSP 2040*.

Funding

N/A

Known Support / Opposition

The public comment period provided an opportunity for input on the *2040 Regional Parks Policy Plan*. The public hearing report provides a list of individual comments received throughout the public comment period. The Metropolitan Parks and Open Space Commission unanimously recommended approval of the proposed action at its meeting on January 6.

Metropolitan Parks and Open Space Commission

Meeting date: January 6, 2015

For the Community Development Committee meeting of January 20, 2015

For the Metropolitan Council meeting of February 11, 2015

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District(s), Member(s): All

Policy/Legal Reference: Minn. Stat. 473.147

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